

CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter having a timer
2 that counts up to n counts generates values in a count sequence and a modem, comprising:
3 periodically transmitting a transmission signal that includes a timestamp field,
4 the timestamp field including a timestamp for synchronizing a receiver timer with the transmitter
5 timer, wherein the timestamp represents a value within the count sequence of the timer and wherein[[,]]
6 the timestamp accounts for delays in the modem.

1 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to a
2 busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmission signal further includes a
2 timer interval field, and the timer interval field includes timer interval data indicating an interval between
3 periodic transmissions of transmission signals.

1 5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmission signal further includes a
2 broadcast pending field indicating the presence of outstanding broadcast data packets.

1 6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between a
2 start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission
3 signal.

1 8. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter having a timer
2 that performs generates values in a count sequence up to n counts, comprising:
3 periodically transmitting a transmission signal that includes a header field and a timestamp field,
4 such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field, and
5 loading, after the transmission of the header field begins, a timestamp into the timestamp field of
6 the transmission signal, wherein the timestamp represents a value m within the count sequence of the
7 timer, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between a start of a process to transmit the
8 transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission signal.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to a
2 busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the timestamp is loaded into the timestamp
2 field when the header field is transmitted.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 12. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the header field is the first field of the
2 transmission signal such that the loading of the timestamp field with the timestamp occurs when the
3 transmission of the transmission signal begins.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the header field includes type data indicating
2 a type of the transmission signal.

1 15. (canceled)

1 ~~15~~ 16. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter in a wireless local
2 area network, comprising:
3 periodically constructing, in response to a timer that ~~counts up to n counts~~ generates values in a
4 count sequence, a transmission signal that includes a timestamp field,
5 running a protocol to determine whether the network is busy,
6 loading a timestamp, based upon a value m of the timer, into the timestamp field of the
7 transmission signal if the running step determines the network is not busy, and
8 transmitting the transmission signal containing the timestamp.

1 ~~16~~ 17. (original) The method of claim ~~16~~ ¹⁵, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 ~~17~~ 18. (original) The method of claim ~~16~~ ¹⁵, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ~~18~~ 19. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ ¹⁵, wherein the timestamp represents a value
2 within [[a]] the count sequence of the timer at a time of transmission of the transmission signal.

1 ~~19~~ 20. (original) The method of claim ~~16~~ ¹⁵, wherein the protocol is a carrier sense multiple
2 access with collision avoidance protocol.

1 ~~20~~ 21. (original) The method of claim ~~16~~ ¹⁵, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between
2 a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission
3 signal.

1 ~~21~~ 22. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter having a timer
2 that ~~counts up to n counts~~ generates values in a count sequence and a modem, comprising:
3 periodically transmitting a transmission signal that includes a header field and a timestamp field,
4 such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field, and
5 loading, after the transmission of the header field begins, a timestamp into the timestamp field of
6 the transmission signal, the timestamp for synchronizing a receiver timer with the timer, wherein the
7 timestamp is based upon a value m of the timer, the timestamp accounting for delays in the modem.

1 23. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to a
2 busy signal on a medium access protocol.

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24. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the timestamp is loaded into the timestamp field when the header field is transmitted.

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25. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has data buffered.

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26. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the transmission signal is periodically transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone infrastructure.

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27. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission signal.

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28. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter having a timer that counts up to n counts generates values in a count sequence and a modem in a wireless local area network, comprising:
periodically constructing a transmission signal that includes a timestamp field,
running a protocol to determine whether the network is busy or free,
waiting until the protocol determines that the network is free and then loading a timestamp, based upon a value m of the timer, into the timestamp field of the transmission signal, wherein the timestamp is configured for synchronizing a receiver timer with the timer and wherein the timestamp accounts for delays in the modem, and
transmitting the transmission signal containing the timestamp.

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29. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

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30. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has data buffered.

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31. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the transmission signal is periodically transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone infrastructure.

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32. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission signal.

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33. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the protocol is a carrier sense multiple access with collision avoidance protocol.

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34. (currently amended) A method of transmitting data from a transmitter having a timer in a wireless local area network, comprising:
periodically constructing, in response to a timer that counts up to n counts generates values in a count sequence, a transmission signal that includes a header field and a timestamp field, such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field,
running a protocol to determine whether the network is busy,

7 transmitting the transmission signal if the running step determines that the network is not busy,
8 and

9 loading, after transmission of the header field begins, a timestamp into the timestamp field of the
10 transmission signal, wherein the timestamp represents a value m within a count sequence of the timer.

11 ³⁴~~35~~ (original) The method of claim ³³~~34~~, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to a
12 busy signal on a medium access protocol.

13 ³⁵~~36~~ (original) The method of claim ³³~~34~~, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
14 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
15 infrastructure.

16 ³⁶~~37~~ (original) The method of claim ³³~~34~~, wherein the timestamp is loaded into the timestamp
17 field when the header field is transmitted.

18 ³⁷~~38~~ (original) The method of claim ³³~~34~~, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays in the
19 transmitter modem.

20 ³⁸~~39~~ (original) The method of claim ³³~~38~~, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
21 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
22 infrastructure.

23 ³⁹~~40~~ (original) The method of claim 34, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between
24 a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission
25 signal.

1 ⁴⁰~~41~~ (currently amended) A transmitter comprising:
2 a transmitter timer that counts up to n counts generates values in a count sequence,
3 a transmitter modem, and
4 a controller controlling the modem to periodically transmit a transmission signal that includes a
5 timestamp field, the timestamp field including a timestamp for synchronizing a receiver timer with the
6 transmitter timer, wherein the timestamp is based upon a value m of the timer, the timestamp accounting
7 for delays in the transmitter modem,

1 ⁴¹~~42~~ (original) The transmitter of claim ⁴⁰~~41~~, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ⁴²~~43~~ (original) The transmitter of claim ⁴⁰~~41~~, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 ⁴³~~44~~ (original) The transmitter of claim ⁴⁰~~41~~, wherein the transmission signal further includes a
2 timer interval field, and the timer interval field includes timer interval data indicating an interval between
3 periodic transmissions of transmission signals including traffic pending fields.

1 ⁴⁴~~45~~ (original) The transmitter of claim ⁴⁰~~41~~, wherein the transmission signal further includes a
2 broadcast pending field including broadcast pending data indicating whether broadcast data is buffered at
3 the transmitter.

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1 46. (original) The transmitter of claim 41, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

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1 47. (original) The transmitter of claim 41, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

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1 48. (currently amended) A transmitter, comprising:
2 a timer that performs generates values in a count sequence up to n counts,
3 a controller controlling operation of the transmitter to periodically transmit a transmission signal
4 that includes a header field and a timestamp field, such that the header field is transmitted before the
5 timestamp field, and controls loading, after the transmission of the header field begins, of a timestamp
6 into the timestamp field of the transmission signal, wherein the timestamp represents a value m within
7 the count sequence of the timer, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay between a start of a process
8 to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the transmission signal

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1 49. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

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1 50. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the timestamp is loaded into the
2 timestamp field when the header field is transmitted.

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1 51. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

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1 52. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

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1 53. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the header field is the first field of the
2 transmission signal such that the loading of the timestamp field with the timestamp occurs when the
3 transmission of the transmission signal begins.

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1 54. (original) The transmitter of claim 48, wherein the header field includes type data
2 indicating a type of the transmission signal.

1 55. (canceled)

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1 56. (currently amended) A transmitter in a wireless local area network, comprising:
2 a timer that counts up to n counts generates values in a count sequence, and
3 a controller that controls periodic construction, in response to the timer, of a transmission signal
4 that includes a timestamp field, running a protocol to determine whether the network is busy, loading of a
5 timestamp, based upon a value m of the timer, into the timestamp field of the transmission signal if the
6 running step determines the network is not busy, and transmission of the transmission signal containing
7 the timestamp.

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1 57. (original) The transmitter of claim 56, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ⁵⁶58. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁵⁴56, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 ⁵⁷59. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁵⁴56, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ⁵⁸60. (currently amended) The transmitter of claim ⁵⁴56, wherein the timestamp represents a
2 value within ~~[[a]]~~ the count sequence of the transmitter timer at a time of transmission of the
3 transmission signal.

1 ⁵⁹61. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁵⁴56, wherein the protocol is a carrier sense multiple
2 access with collision avoidance protocol.

1 ⁶⁰62. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁵⁴56, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

1 ⁶¹63. (currently amended) A transmitter, comprising:
2 a transmitter timer that ~~performs~~ generates values in a count sequence ~~up to n-counts~~,
3 a transmitter modem, and
4 a controller controlling periodic transmission of a transmission signal that includes a header field
5 and a timestamp field, such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field, and controlling
6 loading, after the transmission of the header field begins, of a timestamp into the timestamp field of the
7 transmission signal, the timestamp for synchronizing a receiver timer with the transmitter timer, wherein
8 the timestamp represents a value m within the count sequence, the timestamp accounting for delays in the
9 transmitter modem.

1 ⁶²64. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁶¹63, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ⁶³65. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁶¹63, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 ⁶⁴66. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁶¹63, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ⁶⁵67. (original) The transmitter of claim ⁶¹63, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

1 ⁶⁶68. (currently amended) A transmitter in a wireless local area network, comprising:
2 a transmitter timer that ~~counts up to n-counts~~ generates values in a count sequence,
3 a transmitter modem, and
4 a controller controlling periodic generation of a transmission signal that includes a timestamp
5 field, running of a protocol to determine whether the network is busy or free, and loading of a timestamp,
6 based upon a value m of the timer, into the timestamp field of the transmission signal if the running step

7 determines the network is free, wherein the timestamp is useable for synchronizing a receiver timer with
8 the transmitter timer, the timestamp accounting for delays in the transmitter modem.

1 ~~69~~⁶⁷ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~68~~⁶⁶, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ~~70~~⁶⁸ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~68~~⁶⁶, wherein the transmission signal includes a traffic
2 pending field, and the traffic pending field includes data indicating stations for which the transmitter has
3 data buffered.

1 ~~71~~⁶⁹ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~68~~⁶⁶, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ~~72~~⁷⁰ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~68~~⁶⁶, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

1 ~~73~~⁷¹ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~68~~⁶⁶, wherein the protocol is a carrier sense multiple
2 access with collision avoidance protocol.

1 ~~74~~⁷² (currently amended) A transmitter in a wireless local area network, comprising:
2 a timer that ~~performs~~ generates values in a count sequence ~~up to n counts~~,
3 a controller controlling periodic construction of a transmission signal that includes a header field
4 and a timestamp field, such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field, running of a
5 protocol to determine whether the network is busy, and loading, after transmission of the header field
6 begins, of a timestamp into the timestamp field of the transmission signal, wherein the timestamp
7 represents a value m within the count sequence of the timer.

1 ~~75~~⁷³ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~74~~⁷², wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ~~76~~⁷⁴ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~74~~⁷², wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ~~77~~⁷⁵ (original) The transmitter of claim ~~74~~⁷², wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

1 ~~78~~⁷⁶ (currently amended) A transmitter in a wireless local area network, comprising:
2 a transmitter timer that ~~counts up to n counts~~ generates values in a count sequence,
3 a transmitter modem, and
4 a controller controlling periodic construction of a transmission signal that includes a header field
5 and a timestamp field, such that the header field is transmitted before the timestamp field, running of a
6 protocol to determine whether the network is busy, and loading of a timestamp into the timestamp field
7 of the transmission signal, wherein the timestamp is useable for synchronizing a receiver timer with the
8 transmitter timer, the timestamp accounting for delays in the transmitter modem.

1 ~~77~~ 79. (original) The transmitter of claim ~~76~~ 78, wherein the timestamp accounts for delays due to
2 a busy signal on a medium access protocol.

1 ~~78~~ 80. (original) The transmitter of claim ~~76~~ 78, wherein the transmission signal is periodically
2 transmitted over a wireless local area network by an access point that is connected to a backbone
3 infrastructure.

1 ~~79~~ 81. (original) The transmitter of claim ~~78~~ 80, wherein the timestamp accounts for a delay
2 between a start of a process to transmit the transmission signal and an actual time of transmitting the
3 transmission signal.

1 ~~80~~ 82. (original) The transmitter of claim ~~78~~ 80, wherein the protocol is a carrier sense multiple
2 access with collision avoidance protocol.